

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 06582 170440Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 06582

EXDIS

EA FOR PLATT

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: OVIP (FUKUDA, TAKEO)
SUBJECT: FUKUDA VISIT: SONODA MEETING WITH SECRETARY

YUKIO SATO, SECRETARY TO FONMIN SONODA, INFORMED POLCOUNS
AT RECEPTION APRIL 11 THAT HE ANTICIPATED SONODA WOULD WANT
TO DISCUSS BROAD ASIAN POLICY WHEN HE MET WITH SECRETARY
DURING FUKUDA VISIT. HE SAID SONODA MIGHT WELL APPROACH
SUBJECT ALONG LINES HE USED IN CONVERSATION LAST MONTH
WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY DUNCAN (PARA 5 TOKYO 04281).
SATO GAVE NO INDICATION THAT SONODA HAD ANY PARTICULAR
PROPOSALS IN MIND, ONLY THAT HE WANTED TO ESTABLISH BASIS
FOR FRANK DIALOGUE IN WHICH EACH SIDE WOULD SPEAK UP WITH-
OUT INHIBITION AS TO WHAT WAS ON ITS MIND. (YOU WILL
RECALL SONODA TOLD DUNCAN US SHOULD MAKE CLEAR WHAT IT
HOPED TO ACHIEVE IN POLITICAL TERMS AND INDICATE WHERE
JAPAN FITTED INTO PICTURE, BUT LEAVE IT UP TO GOJ TO MAKE
ITS OFFERS ON WHAT IT MIGHT DO.)

2. IT WAS NOT FEASIBLE TO PURSUE CONVERSATION WITH SATO
AT TIME AND WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO GET BACK TO HIM;
ACCORDINGLY, WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO SURMISE SPECIFICS OF
WHAT HE HAD IN MIND. BY POOLING OUR BEST HARAGEI SKILLS
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WE CONSTRUE AN INVITATION FOR SECRETARY IN COURSE OF HIS
MEETING WITH SONODA TO MAKE POINTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

-- AS PRESIDENT INDICATED TO FONMIN FUKUDA LAST YEAR, WE
DO NOT ANTICIPATE JAPAN'S PLAYING A MILITARY ROLE IN ASIA
BEYOND THE RESPONSIBILITY IT HAS FOR ITS LOCAL DEFENSE.
FUKUDA DOCTRINE ENUNCIATED IN MANILA APPEARED TO STRIKE

RECEPTIVE NOTE THROUGHOUT SEA AND WAS VERY MUCH IN ACCORD WITH OUR THINKING AS TO CONTRIBUTION JAPAN MIGHT MAKE TO ASIAN STABILITY.

-- IN REGARD TO MILITARY BURDEN IN AREA, HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND HELPFUL IN VIEW OF STRAIN ON U.S. RESOURCES AND US RESPONSIBILITY FOR STRATEGIC UMBRELLA, IF GOJ COULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR U.S. FORCES STATIONED IN JAPAN.

-- WHILE WE REGRET INABILITY TO FIND STRATEGY THAT WOULD SECURE FOR JAPAN PERMANENT SC SEAT IT DESERVES, THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR JAPAN TO ENGAGE MORE ACTIVELY IN UN UNDERTAKINGS. SHOULD CURRENT PROPOSALS FOR RESOLVING FUTURE OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA BEAR FRUIT FOR EXAMPLE, PERHAPS JAPAN COULD CONSIDER PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN TRANSITIONAL MACHINERY OR CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATERIAL SUCH AS TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT. (IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD MAKE FIRM COMMITMENT OF SUPPORT FOR JAPAN'S SC CANDIDACY.) MANSFIELD

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